1	ebk0soka	Argument
2	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK	
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4	MARK I. SOKOLOW, et al,	
5	Plaintiff,	
6	V .	04 CV 00397
7	PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION, et al,	
8	Defendant.	
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10		New York, N.Y. November 20, 2014 11:30 A.M.
12	Before:	
13	HON. GEORGE B. DANIELS,	
14		District Judge
15	APPEARANCES	
16	ARNOLD & PORTER, LLP	
17	Attorneys for Plaint BY: KENT A. YALOWITZ	iff
18	PHILIP W. HORTON KEN HASHIMOTO	
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22	Attorneys for Defend BY: LAURA G. FERGUSON	ant
23	BRIAN A. HILL MARK JOHN ROCHON	
24	MICHAEL SATIN	
25		

THE DEPUTY CLERK: Be seated. I think the court reporter has everyone's appearances, and I have them in front of me, we need not go through that.

(Case called)

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THE COURT: Okay. All right. First of all, I have rendered a decision on the summary judgment motions. should have that. If you don't, then let the Court know.

I intend to keep us on schedule. We are going to trial in January. January 12 is our trial date. I'm working with Jury, in terms of how we're going to coordinate jury selection.

There are a number of issues that they noticed as issues that are outstanding and need be resolved between now and then. And I intend to resolve them as early as possible.

Today, I'm going to give you some indication of what my position is, and I'll be issuing decisions or orders with regard to some other issues. And then we can discuss my position and the scheduling for deciding some other issues.

But, now that summary judgment motions are put aside, let me first just go through some other issues.

I am going to issue an order overruling plaintiff's objections to Judge Ellis' denial of the motion for sanctions.

And I am denying the request that this Court impose evidentiary sanctions for defendant's failure to timely produce documents from the PA General Intelligence Service.

I have reviewed the decision by Magistrate Judge Ellis, and the circumstances that have been indicated that were relevant to that motion. I agree with Judge Ellis, that the determination of the circumstances, as presented to him, do not warrant sanctions as argued by the plaintiffs. So I am going to deny that motion; overrule those objections, deny that motion. And I'm going to issue an order within the next few days to that effect.

Let me go to the defendant's motion for separate trial and bifurcation. I'm going to deny that motion for separate trials and for bifurcation of the liability and damages phases of the trial. I see no real efficiency in doing that, nor any requirement that that need be done.

I think that my decision with regard to summary judgment has streamlined some of the case and eliminated some issues. I have also determined that a significant amount of evidence might even otherwise be admissible, even if other plaintiffs were not in the same case. And I see no undue prejudice to the defendant in efficiently trying all of these related issues, and putting it before the jury, and putting the issue of liability and damages before a jury which can hear the evidence. Bring in all of the witnesses at one time, present all of the evidence, and have them make the determinations as to individual plaintiffs and individual claims. And I think that that can efficiently be done without prejudice to either

party, so I'm going to deny that motion.

With regard to the process, I'm just going through the ones that I think I have already sufficiently satisfied myself as to what my ruling was going to be and had an opportunity to review the relevance submissions and material.

With regard to the plaintiff's motion for an anonymous jury, I'm going to grant that motion. To the extent that the names and addresses and workplaces of the jurors in the jury panel, when we give them questionnaires, and continue through the jurors that are selected, I am going to have that information not provided.

I'm thinking about a process, and have already been discussing with the jury panel, a process for getting access to enough jurors, going through and having them fill out the questionnaires, and having them appear before the parties.

My thought, and we can discuss it further, I will take some suggestions. Because it's January, the number of cases that are scheduled for trial, we will either have a jury panel on the 12th who will be here to start and fill out questionnaires, or to ensure that we have enough jurors, I may bring the jurors in a couple of days earlier so that I don't have to compete with my other colleagues for jurors. I have already been notified that there are a number of trials that are scheduled. It's clear to me that, as it exists now, there are not — if all of those trials go, there are not enough

jurors who are going to be here on that day to satisfy all of the judges who want to try cases on that day.

So I'm in the process of ordering additional jurors and on deciding whether or not we can get those jurors on the 12th or if we have to get them Monday, the 12th, or we have to get those jurors maybe Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday the week before.

As a matter of fact, I can say even publicly on the record, that Judge Cogan, I have spoken with him about the process, procedurally, how he has proceeded with his case that he tried with regard to the bank. And, you know, in terms of how he selected jurors, the questionnaires, those kinds of things. So he has been very helpful to me in that regard.

And what I anticipate, is doing some of the things that I think were appropriate in that case, to do here, and some other things which I think are more appropriate for this case, that may not have been relevant to his case. What I think that we will need is, clearly, we need no less than 100, probably no more than 300 jurors to fill out questionnaires. My thought, right now, is to figure out whether or not 200 jurors will be enough to start with in terms of questionnaires. At this point, given the estimated 10 to 12 week trial, which I hope will end up being less -- I'm not sure that the nature of the live witnesses is going to warrant that time frame. But we'll go with that time frame if that is what the parties still

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think at this point that it is going to take. But as we get closer, we'll talk about, more specifically, what's going to be admissible and what witnesses are really going to testify, how long it will take to present them.

But what I anticipate is, right now, my thought is the cover sheet that I looked at, which was proposed by the parties, I probably won't use. Because I'll probably tell the jurors that I don't want that information. What I'll probably say to them is that, in order to give them a full opportunity to be as forthcoming and candid as they possibly can with regard to actually answering questions on the questionnaire, that I will assign them numbers. And they will fill out questionnaires based on the number that is assigned to them.

To assist the parties, I'm thinking about doing this, it's bringing in, if logistically it works and makes sense, to maybe bring in the jurors. And maybe if we have as many as 200 or 300, we may have to go to the ceremonial courtroom so we can get everybody in the room at the same time. I would like to get all of the jurors in the room at the same time. And I would like to call the jurors up to get their questionnaires that are numbered, so that will at least give the parties an opportunity to see who the individuals are.

I think that's an advantage that's sometimes not I think it would be helpful to the parties to make informed judgments about jury selection in this case. At least

even if we don't disclose the names and addresses and workplaces, the work addresses of the potential jurors, that you see what they look like in terms of juror number one, and in terms of potential juror number one, in terms of potential juror number 12 to 200, 300, so you can factor that in your assessment of the juror, evaluation of that juror.

I have to go through, and I have gone through, the proposed questionnaire with the objections. Quite frankly, which is not surprising, I agree with some on one side, and agree with others on the other side. And there is some things you both agree to that I'm not sure that I agree to.

I'm a little concerned, I can tell you, about the direct nature of the questions about people's religions. I am probably going to see if I can fashion a question that might go more directly to whether or not they have any views, religious or political or otherwise, that might affect their ability to be a fair and impartial juror. I am not comfortable with the questions are you Jewish, are you Muslim, are you — those kinds of questions. But I'm going to think that out more and we can talk about that further as we get closer.

But I'm still trying to figure out a process for after we get the questionnaires. What I want to do is get the questionnaires the first day, and maybe give you a day or two to go through the questionnaires. And, then, a process for having you get, to me, people that we can all agree, or at

least are at least eligible to serve as jurors.

My thought at this point is to -- I'm thinking about impaneling about 16 jurors. And whatever 10 are left at the end of the case, they will render a verdict in this case, and impanel them in the order in which they were randomly assigned numbers.

So, what I would like to do is end up with a number of jurors, at least a number that are qualified to serve, and a number for which we will end up with 16 if the parties exercise all of their peremptory challenges. And at this point, I intend to stick with three peremptories per side. And we can discuss that further. But I don't, given the process with the questionnaire, I'm not sure I see a need for any greater number of peremptories. But we can discuss that. And so be able to have at least 22, exercise peremptories, and end up with 16 to sit through the trial. First 10 will decide the case.

But I have a lot more work to do with the jury questionnaire, so we can discuss that. And, hopefully, we'll be in a position to discuss that the next time we meet.

Or, I can even give you something to look at and work on and propose, or urge me to change, or object to before the next time we are scheduled to meet, which is December 16th.

So we can discuss that process further, but that's sort of the general framework of where I am in conjunction with all of the other things that I have to do on this case, in

terms of how far I have gotten in terms of thinking about the process of jury selection.

So to that extent, I would anticipate that we can pick 16 jurors. I want to make the record clear that I am not compelled, at all -- I am confident to say the record does not support any conclusion or argument by the plaintiffs that sequestration and an anonymous jury is warranted because of some possible threat or danger to jurors and, particularly, on the part of the defendants.

The reason I think that we should proceed with the anonymous juror, is that my primary concern is to make sure the jury selection and jury's evaluation of this case is not influenced by any outside influences. And I don't know who is going to have an interest in this trial. I don't know who is going to show up for this trial. I don't know what people are going to say in this trial. So to the extent that -- I guess I'll finish with my ruling with regard to the motion. Because the motion was for an anonymous jury, a sequestered jury, or at least partially sequestered jury.

I'm going to grant the anonymous jury, only to the extent, as I say, the names, addresses, and workplaces of the potential jurors, and jurors will not be revealed.

I am going to deny the motion for sequestration during the trial. I think that this case is a civil case. It doesn't warrant sequestration. I think that there is a significant

danger of prejudice to the parties to make them think that somehow this case warrants sequestration because of some dangers to the jurors, or some other related issue.

So I am going to deny the plaintiff's motion that the jury be sequestered during the trial and during deliberations.

I will say this. We will discuss, and I will take reasonable steps, to ensure a fair and impartial juror is not tainted by outside influences during trial, during juror selection, trial, and deliberations. So whether or not that means that, as minimal as simply nobody leaves the courtroom until all of the jurors are off the floor, to whether or not we have court officers that are assigned to this case that ensure that the jurors are escorted out of the building, or some other process so that the jurors go one way and the parties and lawyers go another way.

And that is of concern to me. Some of you may already know that I was in a criminal trial within the last year, in which the issue during the trial was that a lawyer in the criminal case claimed that the juror and defendant were trying to get into the same cab at the same time, and the defendant happened to get there first, and that the juror gave the defendant the finger after the defendant jumped in the cab. And it ended up being an issue. When that occurred, it affected a very high profile trial that we were trying for about six weeks. So I'm sensitive to those minimal issues, and

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sensitive to a little bit more control over the jurors and doing what is reasonable, without prejudicing the case, to make sure that they are not affected by anything outside of this courtroom during the trial, or during their deliberations, or even during jury selection.

So I'm going to go ahead and I will issue an order to that effect in the next couple of days.

I will characterize this as -- I have notice of a new Second Circuit authority, Daimler, referring to Gucci. I will consider that to be a renewed motion for reconsideration. not going to change my decision with regard to the jurisdiction issue. And I am going to issue a short order or opinion, also, probably in the next several days.

First of all, I will indicate for the record here that -- and I'll make it, make that order or decision consistent with that, that the motion was not denied based on weight. I heard the merits of this argument. And my determination was that, and still is, that the PA and PLO's continuous and systematic contacts with the U.S. is sufficient to support the exercise of general jurisdiction apart from that standard. And even undertaking the further common analysis, a certain person of jurisdiction does not conflict with any foreign country's applicable laws or sovereign interests. case does fall, I believe, outside of the traditional analysis that the Court in Daimler and also in Gucci laid out with

regard to a foreign corporation. Even if the defendant is a foreign corporation, where the traditional analysis and place of the corporation and principle place of business would be controlling, it is that rare instance that the Court referred to in Daimler in which an analysis of the business, commercial or otherwise appropriate contacts with the U.S. were so continuous and systematic that it is sufficient to support the exercise of jurisdiction. That was my determination on the merits, originally. That's still my determination.

My position was, with regard to Daimler, I did not preclude the defendants from making that argument based on waiver. But, I have indicated that Daimler does not change — an analysis under Daimler does not change my determination that a certain personal jurisdiction under the ATA or PA and PLO, based on the conclusion that their continuous and systematic contacts render it at home in the U.S. is still an appropriate decision, and is not a contravention of the laws of any foreign country in going further with the common analysis.

So that assessment, I think that assessment is consistent with the rule in Daimler. It is consistent with the rule in Gucci. And further, I should add that Gucci -- not only does Daimler deal with primarily the circumstances dealing with a foreign corporation, it discusses traditional analysis and place of incorporation and principle place of business, which I think this circumstance uniquely isn't compelled by

that strict analysis that Gucci deals with. I think it is important that Gucci also deals with a different circumstance. It deals with whether or not, specifically whether or not a bank's branches in the forum is sufficient to assert general jurisdiction. And the Court in Gucci said that that is not sufficient under Daimler. And I don't disagree with that. And I don't think that my decision is in conflict with that.

So I am going to issue a decision or order on that, indicating that I have reviewed the subsequent authority that was submitted to the Court and my decision with regard to personal jurisdiction is still the same.

I still have a number of issues to address, work left to do. I want to see -- as I say, I already indicated I think the last time we discussed it, what time frame I was trying to deal with issues. I want to still see if -- I'm not sure I will be able to address all of the motions in limine, and the motion to the objections to the 177 trial exhibits, by December 16th. But that's my goal at this point. Minimally, I want to address the 177 trial exhibits and see if I can address, additionally, by that time, the motions in limine to exclude the experts, so you can know as early as possible what my position is with regard to the experts. But I know there are related motions in limine to exclude certain fact witnesses and further objections to trial exhibits that should be addressed. And even objections to deposition designations,

which I will get to as soon as possible, if not by that date, clearly after.

I am going to first concentrate on the 177 trial exhibits, motion objections, experts. And, also, I want to spend some time, between now and then, trying to get to at least a draft of the jury questionnaires. Because I think I want to give you as much time as possible to think about the jury selection.

With regard to the proposed jury instructions given, we can discuss whether or not you want to submit something different, or further, or less, given the nature of my summary judgment decision. It obviously moots the jury instructions with regard to the state claims. And it defines, limits the nature of the ATA claims against certain plaintiffs against the defendants.

Obviously, we don't -- I will try to give you as much guidance as possible on jury instructions as early as possible, but I think that the first priority is something we are going to need at the end of the trial, not necessarily the beginning of the trial. But we'll try to get them in as an early indication of what you can anticipate is the final jury instructions, as early as possible. Some indication before trial, and if not a final indication prior to trial.

The only other issue, and then I will let you raise or ask questions about the things that I have focused on. Also, I

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want to work on a verdict form. Quite frankly, I find sometimes it is easier to try to put together a verdict sheet, verdict form, before doing the jury instructions, because that's where we want the jury to end up. So I will try to get something consistent with my summary judgment ruling to you as early as possible.

The only other issues that I have written down is the question, is the application from three, I believe three individuals, who have identified themselves as representatives of the press, to intervene and unseal certain, unseal all of the material that has been under the confidentiality order part of the agreement and protective order of the Court.

I am not going to make a final decision on that until -- well, let's put it this way. I'm not going to make a final decision about disclosing material until I have made a determination as to what material is admissible at this trial. So I will either postpone the decision on that -- I know I have gotten a response to the motion. I didn't know whether or not I was going to get a further response or a reply. So over the next couple of days, I'll see if that is coming. But my inclination at this point is to either deny the application to intervene without prejudice to renew, or to postpone the decision on that until I have made some decision with regard to the admissibility of exhibits.

My overarching approach is that the standard sort of

redacted material of identification numbers, and addresses, and things like that of individuals, that kind of material will probably not be disclosed. Maybe even some further material with regard to the identities of certain individuals not really directly involved in disputes between the parties. Maybe some of that, in terms of redaction. My initial guidance, and I'll see whether or not that's an appropriate way for me to look at things, but my initial thought is that the material that will be admissible at this trial will be publicly available. The material that is not determined to be admissible at this trial will probably not be public material.

There is some, I don't say dispute, but it seems to be some disagreement about the extent to which judicial material is under seal or protective order, and it is not. I know that the defendant's position is basically that most of the judicial record is already, judicial documents as the interveners want to characterize it. The defendant's position is mostly that is already public. I mean that's true and not true. And some of it is, some of it isn't, and some of it is redacted, and some of it is still under seal.

You know, I am not sure that it's clear that all -I'm not sure that all of the motion papers are fully available
either as motions on related submissions, or -- and clearly not
fully available in unredacted form. But we can discuss that.

I'm more concerned about I can't spend the time going through

each document, each redacted document. But I'll set basic guidance for what is going to be disclosed and not disclosed. And my first basic guidance is that those materials that are admissible at trial will be disclosed at the appropriate time. The reason for my delay in making the decision and even, depending on what the decision is, will be a delay in making those disclosures. Because, clearly, I do not want to prejudice a potential juror that's not even selected yet, or prejudice the jury that is selected prior to the beginning of this trial.

So I want to minimize the kind of isolated material that others who may wish to publicly disseminate it may wish to comment upon and take a risk that that was going to prejudice the parties in this case, one side or the other, with regard to being able to select and maintain a fair and impartial jury for the trial and during the trial.

So, I will start to look, again, at the categories of material that are at issue, and what things are relevant and admissible, that will be at this trial.

Pretty much I can say that the parties should anticipate that if it is going to be admissible at this trial, other than personal information and standing redacted information in the trial, if there are documents that are going to be put before this jury, they are documents that are going to be disclosed publicly. We can discuss that further as I get

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a better handle on the documents and get a better handle on what is really at issue here.

So, as I say, obviously, there is a lot for all of us to do between now and January. That's where I am.

As I say, I have done a significant amount of work, but I have a significant and greater amount to further undertake. But that's my approach.

You know, I will try to do as much as we can do between now and December 16th, and only put off the things that, in my judgment, the parties, it will still give the parties an opportunity to be ready for trial, and will not be issues that the parties would necessarily have been better off if they had somehow gotten a decision on that much earlier.

So as I say, things like final jury instructions and that sort of stuff, obviously we need that. And you would like it as early as possible. But I don't think that is a priority over some of the other things. And I think you'd probably want better guidance as to particularly with regard to what documents and witnesses and testimony of witnesses that's likely to be admissible as early as possible. So that's where I'm going to concentrate, first, between now and December 16th.

So that is pretty much where I am. And why don't I turn to the parties, and you we can discuss it further, or you can discuss other issues that you think we ought to be focused on.

THE COURT: Start with the plaintiff.

MR. YALOWITZ: Thank you. First of all, your Honor, I want to thank the Court for all of the hard work that you and your chambers are doing. I can tell that the Court is working as hard as we are. And we will be ready and I'm sure you will be ready, as well.

There are sort of three things I want to talk about with you today.

First, I need some guidance from you on the scheduling in terms of how many days a week does the Court plan to sit, how long are those days. I notice your Honor was scheduling some sentencings and other things in late March that seem to be sort of random days.

THE COURT: I assume we are going to be finished by then.

MR. YALOWITZ: I'm going to work real hard for that, but I can't control how long the defendants take for cross or for their case, as you know. What I would like to do is have, as early as possible, as clear an idea of what time are we going to start in the morning, what days are we going to sit.

THE COURT: Sure.

 $$\operatorname{MR.\ YALOWITZ}\colon$$  Because most of my witnesses are from out of town.

THE COURT: Sure.

MR. YALOWITZ: While I --

THE COURT: I can tell you that now.

MR. YALOWITZ: Great.

THE COURT: We will start 9:45 or 10:00, depending on how quickly the jurors arrive. And we'll usually schedule one or two small matters, quick matters, like at 9:30 on some days, that I can't put off. So I'll get those done before 10:00. So we can start as early as 9:45 with the jury's day. And as late as 10:00. I intend to try the case every day that is not a holiday. And I intend to try the case full days, which means that's sometime between 4:30 and 5:00 most days. So, I would anticipate a flow of witnesses and evidence between as early as 9:45 in the morning to as late as 5:00, five days a week.

MR. YALOWITZ: Okay, that's excellent, your Honor.

One small wrinkle that we'll just have to be aware of. Some of our witnesses are orthodox Jews. And we're going to have to get them out of the courtroom pretty early in January on Fridays. So there may be -- we just may have to work around that a little bit.

THE COURT: And what do you think, are you thinking at this point 3:00 or --

MR. YALOWITZ: I don't -- you know, it is -- I don't observe it, so I don't -- I don't have it kind of -- but I think that's -- I tried a case with Judge Kahn and that's what he used to do about 2:30, 3:00 he would wrap it up.

THE COURT: Well, you know, I --

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MR. YALOWITZ: But it depends on the witness, too. Because we have a lot of witnesses who, you know, they are going to be fine.

THE COURT: Right. So I would try not to put those witnesses on for Friday afternoons.

MR. YALOWITZ: Yeah.

THE COURT: I am sure that on certain days, particularly if we are starting to go weeks, I would probably pick a few Fridays where we would adjourn a little early for the jurors, to give them a little rest, a longer weekend.

At this point, we are talking about January 19th as a holiday.

MR. YALOWITZ: Right, President's Day.

THE COURT: We are talking about February 12 is usually a day this Court is closed. Not an official holiday, Lincoln's birthday. Depending on where we are and how many weeks we really anticipate, the question is if we are off February 12th, the question is whether we are going to be sitting Friday, February 13. If we need that day, we will. Ιf it looks like we're ahead of schedule and we don't need that day, I might give the jurors, and you, a longer weekend on that. But that's fairly early in the trial, so I'm not sure that that is going to be appropriate. But, again, depends on what the jurors' plans are, too. Because a little bit of the awkwardness is that February 12 is Thursday. February 16, the

Monday, is President's Day. So Thursday is a holiday, Monday is a holiday, but Friday is not a holiday. So, we'll talk about that. And we'll plan tentatively around that and for But you know, we'll do a full March, if we need a full March. But I'm not -- I mean, as a matter of fact, at this point, approximately how many live witnesses do you think that you would call?

MR. YALOWITZ: I think that I am going to have about 50 live witnesses, your Honor. I have to sort of think through how your Honor's ruling of yesterday --

> THE COURT: Sure.

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MR. YALOWITZ: -- affects that.

I know some of the witnesses are going to be shorter, economists who are going to opine on the damages for some of the witnesses that got knocked out. But, directionally, it is kind of 45, 50 witnesses, many of whom I hope, and expect, will be on and off quite quickly.

THE COURT: Right.

MR. YALOWITZ: You know, I don't think we need family members to spend three days on the witness stand or anything close to that. So it's just a matter of we've got to line them up, get them on, get them off. And it's, truthfully, it is a logistical challenge, but having the five-day week is going to be very helpful in that regard.

> Right. And, you know, I am anticipating, THE COURT:

as I say, usually, the lawyers tell me that they anticipate the case to be a certain length and, usually, it is. I don't anticipate it being that long. And it's usually not that long.

My basic rule is that there should be a witness on the stand, there should be a witness in the witness room waiting, so that we don't have any gaps, so we can move efficiently. I would think that the nature of this case and the nature of the witnesses are that we might be able to do somewhere between three and six witnesses a day, and some days even more than that.

So if you are talking about six witnesses a day, I'm not good at math, that's why I became a lawyer, but now we are talking about nine days of trial.

MR. YALOWITZ: Yeah.

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THE COURT: Nine days of testimony. So that's not nine weeks of testimony.

MR. YALOWITZ: Right.

THE COURT: So as I say, we put aside 10 to 12 weeks, so unless they have a case that is twice as long as yours, which I don't anticipate, this is not going to be a 12 week trial.

MR. YALOWITZ: I hope you are right. I don't think we're going to do six witnesses a day at the beginning.

THE COURT: Right, no, I understand. I'm talking about an average, over the time period.

MR. YALOWITZ: So, but look, we'll learn together.

One of the things I have learned is I'm very bad at predicting how long a trial is going to take. I had one in front of Judge Gleeson that we all thought was three days, and it was four weeks. So you just can never tell, but, okay, that's great.

THE COURT: That's my best guidance.

MR. YALOWITZ: Very helpful.

THE COURT: At this point, I'm going to devote and even the matters you see me schedule during a trial, what I will do is sort of anticipate, the weeks before, whether or not there are one or two of those matters that can be handled, whether we can shift them. If I have oral argument scheduled, they will have to step aside, unless there is some reason we cannot sit or are not sitting on that date. And you'll have full days, and all day, in full weeks until we finish.

MR. YALOWITZ: Okay, that's great.

The second topic I just want to talk a little bit about, the jury veneer. And I don't have it clearly in mind, but I think if we're going for 16 qualified jurors in the box, I am a little worried that 200 wouldn't be enough. You know, my experience is anecdotal. I was actually a juror. I didn't get picked, but I filled out one of those questionnaires on a terrorism trial. And I think I was in the 400s as a juror. And I know Judge Kaplan just picked a jury. And my partner was also questioning. He was questioning. And he said there were

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hundreds. But, look, the Court has experience in these kinds of trials, and we do them in the Southern District. Just 200 sounded a little low to me, and I just put that out there for your Honor.

THE COURT: As I say, I spoke to Judge Cogan in his case -- I think he told me he had 200 or 300 and they ended up with 10 jurors and didn't have a problem.

Now, you know, whether or not that would be a similar experience, I don't know. I think that my thought is that at least 200. Really, what it's going to do, it's really going to depend on finding a place, particularly. Let's put it this way. I have two choices, but we can discuss that as we get closer. My choice is to simply have jurors fill out questionnaires, give you the questionnaires, and then bring those jurors in who are qualified to be brought in after that, and that's when you meet them for the first time. that's the way Judge Cogan did it in his case. If that's the way you want to do it, that's fine with me, then logistically, that's easy. But my intent was to, as they say, let you eyeball the jurors before they even start filling out questionnaires, and speak to the jurors. And emphasize the importance of picking a fair and impartial juror, as I always do. And a lot of the information that you have in the questionnaires that I use, I will say to the jurors. I find it much more compelling to say to the jurors than simply have them read it on the form.

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So I would rather have the potential jurors meet you And to have you see who they are. And have them listen to what I have to say about the importance of being a juror; that we need a fair and impartial juror, and despite the length of the trial that I'm going to efficiently move forward and not waste their time, and keep them informed on a daily basis whether I think we're ahead of schedule, behind schedule, on schedule. And give them those assurances that I usually give jurors that, look, we're in this together; you know, I have done this before. I'm going to keep control of the case. I'm not going to waste your time. And we're going to present this case to you in an efficient, effective manner. And be able to at least have that initial conversation with them now. If we can do that, that's fine. If it looks like we are not going to be able to efficiently do that, and we should just simply have them, you know, 300, 400, potential jurors fill out questionnaires, and then have you go through the questionnaires and the questionnaires that look like they are qualified people, then bring them in and have you meet those people. That's usually the way it is done -- not usually. That's the way Judge Cogan did it. I have spoken to others who have spoken to jurors before they fill out the questionnaires. preference is to speak to the jurors as early as possible. it's going to be limited in the capacity that I can find a room to get all of the jurors in to be able to do that. And, quite frankly, I think the only room that I am going to do that to hold 200 or 300 potential jurors, is going to be the ceremonial courtroom.

MR. YALOWITZ: Right, right.

THE COURT: So if I'm going to do that --

MR. YALOWITZ: I think that room is big enough.

THE COURT: But that still limits the number. So if it is more than 200 or 300, and we're gonna speak to the jurors first, we are going to have to do it twice.

So, you know, there is no way that, unless you say, give me 500 jurors, let them fill out questionnaires, and then we'll winnow it down to 100, then we'll bring them in and you meet the hundred. If you want to do it that way, that's fine with me. I don't have any problems with that. And that's an effective way to do it. And I'm sure you can get a fair and impartial jury that way. But if you want me to say, you know, ladies and gentlemen, you have your cards, each of those cards has a number on it. When we call your number, come up and get your questionnaire. And I introduce myself. I introduce the lawyers. I introduce the parties. Tell the jury what the case is about, so they can start thinking about this. And tell them what that process is. And, then, call them up individually and hand them their questionnaires and have them go back to Central Jurors and spend the rest of the day filling out their

questionnaires. And so you can size up, you know, Ms. X, or
Mr. Y, as you see them. And, you know, that gives you some
other, not necessarily legitimate basis to want them or not

want them, but at least you know what they look like.

MR. YALOWITZ: I'm sure Mr. Y would be an excellent juror.

So, look, I like that idea. I like the idea of you talking to them, and us, you know, being able to eyeball them. And so I like that idea. And I think the ceremonial courtroom is big enough to achieve it.

I like that idea a lot more, like maybe the sixth or seventh of January, than I like it the twelfth of January.

Because, again, if we use that week before productively and we get the cause challenges done, and we can actually pick the jury on the morning of the twelfth and get started with opening and witnesses, that's a lot better than kind of lingering as the week of the 12 drifts by, and --

THE COURT: Well, as I say, part of it is in my negotiations with the chief judge and the jury, so that we could figure out how many people we can get in here. And, you know, clearly, there are a lot of people. I mean it's the new year. Clearly, the 12 -- there are a lot of judges who start a trial. So we want that number. I mean we may be talking about using the whole day's jury panel, which will give no one else an opportunity to utilize that panel. So if we were to do

that, we may have to do that a day or two before the 12th, if we want to grab all of those jurors.

MR. YALOWITZ: I would rather do it before the 12th anyway, because that will help us with the --

THE COURT: If we can't get the jurors before the 12th, then that may define it, also.

MR. ROCHON: Before we turn away from that, your Honor, I don't want to make Mr. Yalowitz nervous, but we agree that it's better that the jurors first hear from the Court in connection with their questionnaires and not some other person. I don't think we get as much out of it, but I believe the system works better when they hear it from you.

THE COURT: Yeah. Yeah, I agree. Jurors usually like me, so. I'm on their side. They understand that very quickly. Particularly, when I talk about being efficient, and moving forward, and not wasting their time, and making sure that time is used efficiently, and keeping them informed. And the jurors get some assurance early on that -- and sometimes, I don't know if I'll tell them in this case -- sometimes I tell them, look, this is -- if this is a two or three week case, and you have a good excuse why you can't do that for the next two, three weeks, if I excuse you from this case, you don't go home, you go back to Central Jury. You may go to one of my colleagues who is not as nice as me. They may have a six-month trial for you to sit on, and that may be the case you sit on. I

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emphasize what their responsibilities are, that they are here, and we expect them, and I don't listen to -- I cannot excuse them because jury service is an inconvenience. serious about it. And they take it seriously. And I find as long as they know that I understand that this is a minor or major disruption in their personal and professional lives, but it is something that is important that is required of them, I think they are very serious about taking on this responsibility. And it's much easier for me to get a jury panel.

MR. YALOWITZ: That's great. So let's do it that way. THE COURT: We'll talk about it again on the next day as we get closer, and I can get more information about what the logistics would be.

MR. YALOWITZ: The other thing, just to sort of maybe put in your mind, when you were talking, your Honor, about figuring out some way to keep the jury from -- some process with regard to assembly and, you know, arrival and departure. And sometimes what the marshal will do is have a designated spot, off the premises, and they can just assemble there and come into the courthouse in a van from the marshals' office or something, and that might be something that would work well.

THE COURT: I will think of those things. And we can As they say, I have to balance it with letting discuss them. the jury know that we respect their privacy. And, obviously,

they should decide this case solely on the evidence presented at the trial, and not anything that they may read, or hear, or

be confronted by anybody who might have an interest in this

case one way or the other.

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But I have to do that in the context of not making the jury think that there is something they should be particularly concerned about with regard to one of the parties, or somehow thinking that, you know, this case is -- this is not a criminal case in which the charges will give the jury some reason to fear for their lives. And I don't want them to think that that is the case. And I have to balance it. And I don't want to be -- clearly, obviously, I understand that concern about not being prejudiced in that way, thinking somebody should fear something from the defendants. But, quite frankly, I find that sometimes it turns out that some juror, in their mind, has some concern about the plaintiffs, rather than the defendants. I have no control over it, and I don't know what people are going to be like if they think that somehow I have to put a hood over them and bring them in and out of the courthouse every day. And so I will clearly set up some process so that they are not interfered by, you know, by spectators or press or otherwise. But I'm going to emphasize to them that's the purpose of this. And I'm not going to make the sole choice of somehow there is something else they should be concerned about. I have spoken to other judges who have had cases, and this has

not been an issue. I know with Judge Cogan it wasn't an issue. I think that this, ultimately, once we get started, the jury will be able to handle this appropriately, and as seriously as they would any other trial, civil trial in which, you know, serious injury is alleged. And that, you know, defendants are

So, we can discuss it further. Whatever we can all agree upon that would be comfortable, we'll do. To the extent we can agree, I'll make an independent judgment about how and what, how best to protect the jurors from those inappropriate contacts with people outside of this court.

MR. YALOWITZ: Thank you.

accused of serious conduct.

One other  $\operatorname{\mathsf{--}}$  I guess I have two other sort of process issues for the Court.

One is I know the Court is going to be working on the motions in limine. One of the issues that I have is that the defendants have listed about 20 witnesses as to whom they made no disclosures under Rule 26A. And so some of those I have depositions in other cases, so I kind of know who they are. But some of them I have never heard of, can't figure out who they are, have absolutely no idea why they are listed as witnesses, and never had an opportunity to get any discovery about them, even a deposition. And so I know that's -- I mean it has been fully briefed, I don't need to reargue it here. But to the extent that we're going to have a process in which

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the Court permits the defendants to bring witnesses, in that circumstance, first of all, I hope that the Court doesn't allow it under the theory that we talked about, that disclosure had to be done during the discovery phase. But if we are going to allow it, I would like enough time that we have some process to find out who these people are, and what they are going to talk about, and maybe take their measure in a brief deposition. don't need seven hours, but --

THE COURT: Well, we can discuss that further, if that's appropriate. I mean I think at this point that you should prepare for trial, assuming that all of the evidence that you want to put in will be in, and all of the evidence that they want to put in will be in.

MR. YALOWITZ: I understand that.

THE COURT: To make it easier for you to be prepared, if you don't have to deal with it.

MR. YALOWITZ: Right, I understand that. And that's why I just wanted to put it maybe higher on your list than it had been, because I would like that process, if you're going to -- if you're going to give them that leniency.

THE COURT: In order to prioritize the limit of time between now and then, I will try to get all of those issues that particularly have to do with what you might anticipate as evidence in this case, try to resolve that as early as possible, and try to resolve most, if not all of that, between now and December 16.

MR. YALOWITZ: That's great.

And then just the last sort of process issue is I would like to package for you, in some way, a set of the exhibits that we believe are the convictions of the perpetrators and other individuals. And I think that the admissibility of those convictions has been well briefed. I don't know that the Court needs more briefing on it. I think you have got plenty of briefing on everything, but I think it would be useful for you to have sort of a physical set of those convictions, so you can see them. And that might assist us. And, also, I don't think it is appropriate to suss out the defendant's objections to those convictions in front of the jury, because the defendants' argument is that their argument is the whole court system in Israel is unreliable. And that's really not something the jury should be hearing. And it's not really an issue for the jury anyway, it's an issue for --

THE COURT: Well, the jury is not going to hear any argument with regard to objections to testimony or evidence.

Make your objection. If you have a ground for the objection, you can state a one word ground for it. But in most cases I'll know why you are objecting. And if you want further argument, it will have to happen outside of the presence of the jury.

MR. YALOWITZ: Of course.

My goal is to get you some kind of a package that will

help us get the objections to those documents ruled on in advance of trial, because I expect them to --

THE COURT: Well, I.

MR. YALOWITZ: -- come up early.

THE COURT: Let me hear from the other side, but this may moot it. I think I will prefer for you to give me, first, an opportunity to review the motions, and then reach out. You can prepare it and be prepared to give it to me, but I'll reach out to you if I need something further submitted to me to make that determination. I'll also --

MR. YALOWITZ: The issue, if I may, your Honor, with the convictions is there is no in limine motion on it. It was both sides briefed it kind of inside the summary judgment. So there is briefing on it, but there is not an application for relief by either side.

THE COURT: Well, the only thing that I am interested in, in the first instance, is in what form you are intending to offer the conviction. And if you had said you have a certified judgment of conviction, that's all I need to know. And they are going to have to argue to me why that is not good enough. And it can't be because it comes from Israel. It has to be because there is some reason to believe that that doesn't meet the standard requirements of admissibility. Whether or not you need a witness to set that foundation is a different question. But, you know, at this point, if you need further guidance, or

ruling with regard to those convictions, then indicate to them which convictions you intend to offer, and see if they have an articulable reason to object. And if they do, then you tell me why it is admissible, and they can tell me why it is not. And, quite frankly, not determinative by what the conviction is, it's determined by -- I don't think. It is determined by whether or not it reliably reflects an actual conviction that occurred. If it does, there are not a whole lot of legitimate objections to it. Even if it was, as they say, even if a defendant was framed, it still doesn't change the fact that there is a conviction. So I handle convictions the same way. You couldn't come in, now, and litigate whether or not the person is guilty of it or not guilty of it, if the limited purpose of the conviction is to show the witness or person is, in fact, convicted.

Now whether you want to argue whether or not that is evidence that indicates there was a legitimate conviction or illegitimate conviction, or whether or not what's supposed to be inferred from that conviction, you know, that's a different issue, and that may be an argument about what the conviction is being offered — or the purpose it is being offered. But if you can articulate for me, if you think that that's going to be an issue, in a letter, tell me you think that they are going to have a problem with this, and you want an early ruling, during the trial or before trial with regard to whether it is likely

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that you are going to get that in based on what you say it is, and based on some foundation to demonstrate that it is, in fact, what it is. And obviously, if it's written on a yellow pad that you found on the street, that is not good enough, give me something else. And you have to tell me what basis it is admissible under the rules.

MR. YALOWITZ: I think we'll get you a letter as soon as we can put it together. It won't be overly long. will, I think, be helpful to you. And I'm sure it will be helpful to me.

THE COURT: I know what the defense is going to say, they are going to say, Judge, I don't want them to just keep slipping stuff into the record --

MR. ROCHON: No, Judge, I apologize for interrupting you. But the reason I stand when Mr. Yalowitz is talking, is not to disagree with him. I was going to wait till he sat down to disagree with him. I agree with him. I think it would be helpful to the Court if he were to provide the Court with that which he seeks to admit. And so I don't object.

THE COURT: You know, I assumed that you guys were already beyond that, but --

MR. ROCHON: I don't think the Court has had the benefit of seeing how convictions are produced there. And I think it would be helpful to your analysis, so I support the request.

THE COURT: Fine. If you want to, put it in a binder Then I'll look at it. and send it to me.

Anything else?

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MR. YALOWITZ: I think we won't get that to your Honor before Thanksgiving, but --

THE COURT: Okay, I have plenty to do between now and then.

MR. YALOWITZ: Okay, I don't have anything else, unless your Honor has questions.

THE COURT: Let me see what issues need to be addressed at this point, or what comments are going to be made by defense.

> MR. ROCHON: Thank you, your Honor.

First, a few administrative things. And then some areas where we might disagree with the plaintiffs.

The first is just on the witnesses and the length of There is a lot of civilian witnesses we'll be calling. trial. It's gonna be very short crosses. They should be ready to roll these people in and out. I figure everyone knows that, but I thought I would say it.

Hopefully, we are not going to be silly enough to be cross-examining the people who suffered from these injuries a long time, when they don't offer real evidence as to liability. I am not giving away any state secrets there.

I think the trial will go relatively quickly, more

quickly than estimated by the plaintiffs.

And the second, and you can decide this later, but on February 12, given that we are all from out of town, it would be nice for us to not come up and have a -- you get the point.

THE COURT: The 13th, you are saying.

MR. ROCHON: Yeah, I will be pushing you for a five-day weekend.

THE COURT: I understand that. And as I say, usually my approach is usually this way. If we get a good start, and it looks like we're ahead of what I told the jury we were going to do, then I am comfortable doing that, and may be comfortable having that. And I am usually in a situation where I give the jury what I think is the outside time, and we end up not using that much time, so they are not disappointed. They are happy that we have efficiently moved forward.

We'll talk about that as we get closer. But it would be -- if we are moving efficiently, I think even the jurors might appreciate that long weekend.

MR. ROCHON: Yes. And you would look like a hero.

So the other thing is, on the anonymous jury, do you plan on telling the jury that the parties don't know their names and addresses, or do you --

THE COURT: Yes. I intend to tell the jurors that I am not disclosing their names and addresses to anyone, not even the parties, because I want them to fill it out, and I'm going

to concentrate on what I'm going to do. That's another reason why I want to bring them in and speak with them before they even start the questionnaires.

MR. ROCHON: Yeah.

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THE COURT: Because I want them to have that. I'll say it in an appropriate way that, look, you know, this is what the case is about. And then I will ask you to fill out questionnaires. And I would like you to be obviously honest and straightforward about your answers. This is a process. And I emphasize to the jurors, even when I, you know, regularly pick jurors that, look, this is not a process for the parties or the Court to figure out whether you can be a fair and impartial juror. We don't know. We can only go by what you say. It's for you to determine whether you can be a fair and impartial juror, and to let us know. So I want you to think about these questions, and be honest and candid, and let us know so we can make sure. Because we can't -- if we have a 10, 12 week trial, we can't find out eight weeks into the process that this is something that is difficult or not possible for you to do, you can't be a fair and impartial juror at that time. So, you know, as I say, I have enough trial experience that I know how to appropriately deal with the jurors and to emphasize the point, but not prejudice the parties. So I think if I can give them that assurance, right up front, then they can be much more comfortable to be forthright and candid with

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you in these questionnaires, or in further questions if we have to individually question.

MR. ROCHON: And recognizing that if we didn't prevail on that issue, I think having not prevailed, and I'm not trying to reargue it, it is much more important we do that with you, live, to see how they react to it.

THE COURT: It is unclear to me, from looking at the questionnaire, what your position really was. Because the questionnaire was set -- I mean you objected to an anonymous jury. And I was not sure whether or not you were simply concerned about not, you know, setting this up so that the jury is anonymous, sequestered, and thinks that there is something nefarious going on, or some dangers to them, or something like that. But in the questionnaire, I didn't -- and I don't have it in my mind clearly, the yellow and the blue, but I didn't --I mean you didn't object to the cover sheet that said -- and I don't know if you -- you may have rejected the language that said that you are giving this information and only the Court is going to have it. But I don't remember if you objected to that.

MR. ROCHON: We did object. And I understand. not trying to re --

THE COURT: If you feel strongly about it, I'm willing to hear you further on that. Because if you think that there is some prejudice, that there may be to your client if that is

done. But, you know, quite frankly, I think you're going to lose what would otherwise be more of an opportunity to really assess the questionnaires and really determine, particularly if I give, as they say, I let you eyeball the jurors beforehand. I'm not sure if you want to give up that opportunity to let them be as candid as they can be, because they know that they are not publicly being disclosed, their names and addresses, and the individuals, who they are.

MR. ROCHON: Our preference would be to get the names and addresses. I do hear the Court. And I have done it all ways, myself, in terms of trial experience. Our preference would be to know the names and addresses and have them not be made publicly available, only counsel would know those names and addresses. Because I think it helps the counsel in picking a jury. That's our preference. Recognizing, you can go many ways. And, look, I have to be honest, this is one where you have a fair amount of discretion. I'm going to save the other arguments for where I think maybe your discretion is more limited. So we'll respect the Court's approach to it. Our preference is to get the names and addresses and have them not shared with others.

THE COURT: Okay. All right.

MR. ROCHON: In terms of juror issues, the one thing I was going to ask is if the Court sometimes tells the jurors to use one of the Court's entrances, and all the parties and their

witnesses and their hangers-on to use the other so we don't 1 2 have inadvertent contacts. I suggest that might be a workable 3 solution here. 4 THE COURT: That might be one of the approaches that I 5 take. 6 MR. ROCHON: Okay. Now, getting to the more 7 controversial issues. On your ruling on the Daimler Gucci, I'm not trying to 8 9 rearque it. 10 THE COURT: That's fine. 11 MR. ROCHON: The motion for summary judgment, we also 12 included that as an issue. You have obviously indicated your 13 views on this issue more than once. We also moved for summary 14 judgment on personal jurisdiction. Your order did not 15 explicitly say that was denied. You made your point very clearly. I take it that aspect of our motion for summary 16 17 judgment is --THE COURT: Yes, that aspect is denied. Obviously, if 18 my position, if my ruling is that there is personal 19 20 jurisdiction, clearly no way I can grant summary judgment, you 21 know, inconsistent with that. 22

MR. ROCHON: Right. I wanted to clear that up. Our client is considering whether it would seek appellate relief on that issue, and therefore wanted to solidify it.

THE COURT: Sure.

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MR. ROCHON: Next issue is, the focus is, and let me be clear before Mr. Yalowitz says anything. I know that won't stop this schedule. We are not pretending it would stop the schedule for moving forward.

There is issues we would like to get guidance from the Court on sooner, rather than later. I thought I would tell you what they are.

THE COURT: Okay.

MR. ROCHON: The jury instructions on material support and respondeat superior are the heart of the jury instructions. There is a lot of other dreck. It is important dreck, but that's the heart. Knowing where the Court is on those two instructions, I think would help both sides a lot. So if we can put those up front, I think everybody would benefit.

THE COURT: What I will attempt to do, is to at least give you some draft of the substantive instruction by the 16th of December. And whether or not we can accomplish all of that, you know, literally, I have to -- we've already begun, weeks ago, spending the majority of my time on this case, as opposed to other cases. And I anticipate that that's going to continue to be the case, and even be the case through the holidays. So, you know, I'll try to do that. But what I will do, then, I will focus on trying to give you some draft before, or by that time, of the substantive instruction. And I will even try to

put the whole thing together, the standard sort of instructions 1 2 about burden of proof, and witnesses, and that kind of stuff. 3 I'll just redecide so we can refocus on it. We can discuss the 4 kind of substantive instruction. 5 MR. ROCHON: That would be great. And our main area 6 of focus is just --7 THE COURT: Let me stop you for a second. I'm not 8 sure that I got a proposed instruction from you on that. Did 9 Τ? 10 MR. ROCHON: Yes, sir. 11 MR. HILL: They may have been tendered with the 12 objections. 13 THE COURT: Right, it was tendered with the 14 objections. 15 MR. HILL: -- plaintiff's theory, when we were 16 proposing them. 17 THE COURT: My recollection was that I got a set of 18 proposed jury instructions from the plaintiff, but I did not get a separate set of jury instructions from the defense. 19 20 MR. ROCHON: We did. But our objections on those 21 are -- our views are made known in our objections. 22 THE COURT: All right. So you fully propose, in your 23 objections, what the substantive instructions should be with 24 regard to the issues still in the case.

MR. ROCHON: Yes.

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1 And, Judge, a lawyer told the truth today. That's all 2 I have. 3 THE COURT: Okay. Anything else? 4 As I say, this is where I am focused. This is how I 5 am approaching it. You should figure out what's the most 6 efficient way, and what you need to know early, and so we can 7 discuss that. And if there is something that we forgot to discuss here, give me a letter, and then I'll quick respond. 8 9 But, otherwise, we will make progress between now and 10 December 16. And then we will have as much as we can determine and discuss further on the December 16 on those issues that are 11 12 relevant to trying an efficient case, okay. 13 All right, thank you all. 14 One thing I will do, I'm going to push the 15 December 16th time to 11:00. Because the problem is any time 16 before trial, I'm really not available, because I'm trying to 17 get things done before the trial starts, so I'll probably have a couple of matters. Let's say 11:00 o'clock. 18 19 ALL: Thank you, your Honor. 20 (Adjourned) 21 22 23 24 25